

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OUAGAD 00655 231139Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 MC-02
ACDA-07 IGA-02 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00
SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 OMB-01 /046 W
-----231146 010338 /13

O 231014Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3307

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L OUAGADOUGOU 0655

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BEXP, EAIR, UV, UK

SUBJ: PAN AFRICAN AIR INDUSTRIES

REF: LONDON 02991

1. I RECEIVED CABLE FROM COL ROBERTSON OF PAAI YESTERDAY STATING HE IS IN PROCESS OF ACQUIRING NECESSARY LOAN FUNDS FOR PAYMENT OF BELFAST AIRCRAFT AND THAT HE DOES NOT EXPECT ANY DIFFICULTY EXCEPT ONE OF TIMING. APPARENTLY, PAYMENT IS DUE ON FEBRUARY 24 AND IT WILL TAKE HIM LONGER THAN THIS, PERHAPS A WEEK OR TWO, TO MAKE FINAL LOAN ARRANGEMENTS. ROBERTSON ASKED WHETHER STATE DEPARTMENT WOULD BE WILLING TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER WITH UK AUTHORITIES WITH A VIEW TO A RELAXATION OF PAYMENT DEADLINE.

2. IN LONG COVERSATION WITH FINANCE MINISTER KALMOGO LAST NIGHT I ASKED HIM POINT BLANK WHETHER GOUV WAS INTERESTED IN PAAI PROJECT AND IN HAVING BELFAST AIRCRAFT BASED IN OUAGADOU. HIS REPLY WAS AN EMPHATIC "YES". HE SAID THAT TRANSPORT MINISTER OUEDRAOGO WAS IN PROCESS OF WORKING OUT MODUS VIVENDI WITH AIR AFRIQUE WHICH WOULD PERMIT IMPLEMENTATION OF
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PAGE 02 OUAGAD 00655 231139Z

PAAI PROJECT. HE SAID THAT HE WAS OPTIMISTIC PROBLEM WOULD BE STRAIGHTENED OUT WITHIN A FEW WEEKS.

3. IT IS UNDOUBTEDLY IN UK INTERESTS THAT PLANES BE USED FOR ORIGINAL PURPOSE WHICH WAS PRESENTED TO PUBLIC AS A SORT OF INDIRECT UK ASSISTANCE TO SAHEL. IF PLANES WERE USED FOR DIFFERENT PURPOSE, UK AUTHORITIES

WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE UNDER ATTACK FOR HAVING SOLD BELFAST
AIRCRAFT TO PAAI FOR ONLY 5 MILLION DOLLARS.
IN CIRCUMSTANCES, I BELIEVE WE WOULD BE JUSTIFIED IN
APPROACHING UK AUTHORITIES IN ORDER PERMIT COL. ROBERTSON
TO COMPLETE LOAN ARRANGEMENTS. I THEREFORE RECOMMEND
THAT EMBASSY LONDON BE INSTRUCTED TO MAKE SUCH DEMARCHE.

4. STATE 39412 JUST RECEIVED. BELIEVE PARS 2 AND 3
ABOVE MAY BE OF ASSISTANCE TO EMBASSY LONDON.
GRAHAM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT, AIRCRAFT SALES, LOAN AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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SAS ID: 3253013
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PAN AFRICAN AIR INDUSTRIES
TAGS: BEXP, EAIR, UV, UK, PAAI
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Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/952a61c0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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